

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 5 to line 12 with the following rewritten paragraphs:

FIG. 1 is a ~~an exploded~~ perspective view of a spring post according to one embodiment of the invention;

FIG. 2 is a cross section ~~cutaway exploded perspective~~ view of a spring post according to one embodiment of the invention, [[; and]]

FIG. 3 is an exploded perspective view of a spring post according to another embodiment of the invention, [[.]]

FIG. 4 shows an assembled spring post according to the present invention,

FIG. 5 is a perspective view showing flexing of the spring post illustrated in FIG. 4 ; and

FIG. 6 is a perspective view illustrating the electrical junction box in a subterranean location connected to the flexible sheath portion and a lighting fixture.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 3 with the following rewritten paragraphs :

Referring to the drawings and initially to FIG. 1 there is shown a spring post according to one embodiment of the invention. A spring post of the invention generally comprises an inner flexible tubular sheath portion 4 (FIGS. 2, [[5]] 3) that is disposed within a flexible spring means 2. The flexible tubular sheath portion 4 is disposed within the hollow cylindrical space defined by the wound wire construction of the spring means 2, so that the axis of the tubular sheath portion substantially coincides with the axis of the cylindrical volume defined by the spring means. The flexible sheath portion has a first end portion 1 and a second end portion 7. Preferably the flexible tubular sheath portion 4 is a continuous construct of tubular configuration which is waterproof, and is preferably made from a thermoplastic material such as PVC or polyolefin such as polypropylene homopolymer, or copolymer. However, other materials are sufficient for the fabrication of the flexible sheath portion inasmuch as they are known to those skilled in the art as being capable of protecting electrical wiring disposed within its confines from the normal weather elements, including rain, snow, etc.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 17 with the following rewritten paragraphs:

According to one preferred form of the invention, the first end portion 1 and the second end portion 7 of the flexible tubular sheath portion 4 comprise male threads on their end portions. Such a provision enables the first end portion 1 of a spring post according to the invention to be screwed into a cooperatively connecting female thread which is an[[and]] integral part of an existing electrical junction box 8 (FIG. 6) which is disposed in a set location, including subterranean locations. Then, the second end portion 7 is attached to the first end of a linear conduit, which serves as a post, wherein a lighting fixture 9 (FIG. 6) is secured to the second end of the linear conduit. Electrical conductors (not shown) are then fed through the linear conduit, from the junction box 8 to the fixture 9, and the fixture 9 may then be energized. Such an arrangement provides an illuminated post which protrudes vertically upward from the ground and can be used to line a driveway in a residential setting, with the new advantage being that if such a construction is stricken either by a lawnmower or motorized vehicle, the post will bend instead of break at its

base, by virtue of the post being mounted to the ground by way of the spring means 2.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 20 with the following rewritten paragraphs:

In one embodiment shown in FIG. 6 [[of use]] of the present invention, the first end portion of the weather-proof spring post is screwed into or otherwise affixed to a junction box 8 located in a subterranean location. Then, a light fixture 9 such as a lamp is affixed to the second end portion of the weather-proof spring post. Optionally, there may be a pole (not shown) disposed between the lamp and the second end portion. Electrical conduits (not shown) supplying electrical service to the lamp means pass through the flexible sheath means. Thus, a lamp post which is secured to a junction box 8 or other fixture at about the ground level is resistant to being detrimentally deformed by an impact, such as by a lawn-mowing apparatus, a bicycle collision, or being hit by a car. In each of these instances, the lamp post merely flexes, instead of breaking, as is the case with prior-art mounting means for lamps and the like. The present invention comprises the use of electrical fixtures other than lamps at the second end portion of the weather-proof spring means.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 17 to page 9, line 2 with the following rewritten paragraphs:

FIG. 3 shows an exploded view of the spring post according to the invention as shown in FIG. 2[[1]] with the exception of having female threaded ends 5 rather than male threaded ends as in at 1 of FIG. 2 [[1]].

FIG. 4 shows a spring post according to the invention as shown in FIG. 3 [[1]] with the exception of having non-metallic or plastic ends, which may be affixed to an electrical fixture of the prior art using conventional means, wherein the fixture may comprise a lamp or other fixture, or a junction box.

FIG. 5 is a ~~cutaway~~ view showing the flexible sheath means 4 disposed within the spring means 2.

FIG. 6 is a perspective view showing the spring post of the present invention affixed via male or female threads 5 to an electrical fixture 9 of the prior art using any conventional means, i.e. lamp, and a junction box 8 in a subterranean location.